

Michael Parker Receives Sierra Club Honor at National Award Ceremony

A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

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ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. – Michael A. Parker, who serves here as the program manager for Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA), was honored by a prominent national environmental organization earlier this month for his commitment to identifying and implementing alternative technologies for the destruction of U.S. chemical weapons stockpiles.

Parker was presented with the Sierra Club's Distinguished Achievement Award at its annual awards banquet in San Francisco on Sept. 11, for his success in demonstrating safe alternatives to incineration for destroying stored chemical weapons.

Sierra Club President Larry Fahn cited Parker for being a "persistent public servant." As ACWA program manager, Parker "has overseen the development and demonstration of three complex treatment systems for destroying this nation's chemical weapons stockpile, proving conclusively that there are viable and economically attractive alternatives to incineration for dealing with hazardous wastes of all kinds," Fahn said.

A native of St Louis, Mo. now residing in Bel Air, Md., Parker has served as ACWA program manager since 1996. A member of the Senior Executive Service, he is also the director of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, which manages national chemical weapons storage, disposal and emergency preparedness operations.

The Sierra Club recognition complements numerous other accolades Parker has received, including the Distinguished Presidential Rank Award, the most prestigious award given to career government senior executives, and the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service, the Army's highest civilian honor.

